

Executive Registry

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Washington, D.C. 20505

16 May 1977

Lt. Gen. Samuel V. Wilson  
Director  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
Room 3E258  
The Pentagon

DDI # 2051-77

Dear Sam:

Pursuant to our recent discussions about the continuing problems of how to arrange appropriate staffing at NPIC, let me pass along to you a few of my personal views.

First, NPIC is probably the best example we have of a cooperative community effort in the mutual interests to accomplish a major task. The tradition, as you know, has been that 50 percent of the PIs assigned to the Center come from the DoD and the other half from CIA. CIA provides all of the support, the building, the equipment, etc. I can very much sympathize with the effects of cuts over the years made against DIA and the requirements you encounter to find room for new tasks at the same time. All of this has made it impossible to ante up the [ ] now required by NPIC to maintain the 50 percent balance.

The tragedy of all of this is that this great community symbol is tarnished and there is talk by some key officials within the community that the whole NPIC concept should be examined.

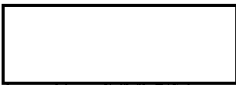
Without losing sight of NPIC as a community element, let's give some thought and attention to a couple of new possibilities. One has to do not with the quantity of DIA input to the Center, but to its quality. Should the Deputy Director, for example, be a flag officer or a civilian supergrade? Should the average backgrounds and qualities of the DoD PI personnel assigned to the Center be enhanced and upgraded? Should there be more regular rotations of such personnel so that their time at NPIC is seen as an upward movement in career terms?

In addition to addressing this question, I would suggest another. Is there not a way in which we can take all of the PI resources [ ] and combine the talents and skills so as to meet national needs and at the same time guarantee the satisfaction of departmental requirements?

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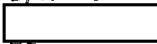
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I would be most interested in your reaction to these ideas.  
Progress of some kind is required. Working together, I think you and  
I can devise that progress.

  
E. H. Knoche  
Deputy Director

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